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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 9 May 1951

SUBJECT Soviet Control over Railroad Tank
Car Distribution Agency in Berlin

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SUPPLE
REPORT

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1. A new agency designated Kesselwagenleitstelle (Railroad Tank Car Distribution Agency) was established in offices on the third floor of the Soviet Zone railroad headquarters at 55 Markgrafenstrasse, Berlin W 8, on 5 January 1951. [redacted] railroad police patrolling the floor on which this agency was located [redacted] it was an office of major importance. *
2. On 22 February 1951, it was ascertained that all railroad tank cars suitable for shipment of oil and fuels were under the exclusive control of the SCC.
3. On 15 March 1951, it was learned that a railroad tank car distribution point had been previously established under the authority of the Soviet Zone Directorate General, Railroads. Soviet orders to this agency have, up to the present, been directed via the Director General. An order of the SCC placed this office under the primary control of the SCC, effective mid-February 1951. Since then the railroad car distribution point has received orders directly from the SCC regarding the use of railroad tank cars, and the Director General, Railroads, has been merely informed of these orders. German railroad authorities may use railroad tank cars only after receiving approval from the SCC. **

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* Comment. It has been previously reported that a railroad tank car distribution point was created on 14 August 1950 to establish central control over the use of railroad tank cars. The office was under German management and was attached to the Soviet Zone Directorate General, Railroads, at 33 Vosstrasse, Berlin.

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** Comment. The tightening of Soviet control over the use of railroad tank cars appears credible because the Soviets need a large number of these cars for their purposes; both for reparation deliveries and for supplying their armed forces installations.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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